

Subject :

Definition of single side skin construction in
New SOLAS Chapter XII

NKTECHNICAL INFORMATION

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To Shipowners and shipbuilders concerned

PLAESD BE INFORMED THAT Interpretation of the term "Bulk carrier of single side skin construction" in new SOLAS Chapter XII coming into force on 1 July 1999, was adopted at MSC71 held in May 1999.

According to this interpretation, new SOLAS Chapter XII applies to bulk carriers with top-side tank and bilge hopper tank where two watertight boundaries of double side skin construction are less than 760mm apart in ships constructed before 1 July 1999(existing bulk carriers) or ships constructed between 1 July 1999 and 31 December 1999(new bulk carriers) or less than 1000mm apart in new bulk carriers constructed on or after 1 January 2000.

Further, it is now under process to amend the Society's Rule for the implementation of this interpretation.

The Interpretation adopted at MSC71 is as follows;

INTERPRETATION OF THE TERM "BULK CARRIER OF SINGLE SIDE SKIN CONSTRUCTION"

1 "Bulk carrier of single side skin construction" means a bulk carrier where one or more cargo holds are bound by the side shell only or by two watertight boundaries, one of which is the side shell, which are less than 760mm apart in bulk carriers constructed before 1 January 2000 and less than 1,000mm apart in bulk carriers constructed on or after 1 January 2000. The distance between the watertight boundaries is to be measured perpendicular to the side shell.

2 The above interpretation should be applied as follows:

.1 in bulk carriers with single side skin construction in the foremost cargo hold, constructed before 1 July 1999, regulation XII/4.2 and 6 should be applied in accordance with the implementation schedule required by regulation XII/3; and

.2 in bulk carriers constructed on or after 1 July 1999, the requirements for

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damage stability under regulation XII/4.1 and structural integrity under regulation XII/5 should be complied with in respect of cargo holds with single side skin construction.

If you need more information about these matters, please do not hesitate to contact us.
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